

Hello Veterans,

This is the second semester of our Newsletter and from our latest audit report we were worried how many students do not understand the importance of the degree plan.

If you are not sure or confused about the class you should take, you should contact your academic advisor. Even if you know what classes you need, we recommend meeting with your [academic advisor](#) every semester to discuss your degree plan and progress.

Degree plan requirement

What is a Degree Plan?

A degree plan is an official document prepared in the office of your Academic Dean. It lists all required courses and departmental requirements for a particular degree.

Why does TWU's Veterans Program need a copy of my degree plan?

VA regulations require that students receiving VA educational benefits select a degree and make satisfactory progress toward the completion of that degree. All VA education benefits recipients must submit a degree plan to the TWU Veterans Program within TWO academic terms, (summer terms are collectively considered one term). VA educational benefits will not be awarded after two terms unless your current degree plan is on file. If a class is not listed on your degree plan the VA will not count it towards your degree and will not pay for the course.

Repeat or Duplication a course.

If a student fails a course or receives a grade below departmental requirements, then they may repeat the same course and receive VA educational benefits. All other repeats/duplications will not be certified for GI Bill benefits.



Military Training Credit:

Veterans using the GI Bill benefits are required to submit their military transcripts for evaluation. The ACE military transcript is preferred and is usual available within two weeks. Receiving college credit for your military training will help will help you complete your degree faster than the average college student.

Veterans are required to submit their DD214-Military discharge form to confirm they are eligible to waiver the Texas Success Initiative requirements.

Additional information:

It is the student's responsibility to submit their degree plan to the TWU Veterans Program Office and to only enroll in course required for their degree. Students who change their major must complete the VA Change of Program/ Training form and the TWU Change of Undergraduate Academic Program Form.

Degree plan continued...

The VA will not accept DARS; therefore academic advisors will need to provide signed [advisory degree plans](#).

You degree plan should include:

List all TWU required courses.

List all department requirements.

A Course number must be assigned to all required classes. (No blank areas)

Evaluate transcripts for prior college and military credit.

If a course number is left blank for future advisement then an updated degree plan or memo must be submitted when the student enrolls in that course. Students are encouraged to meet w/ their advisor every semester.

The VA will only pay for courses required for a student's degree and listed on their degree plan.

Hopefully this information has provided some clarifications and will prevent a registration hold being placed on your account or cause interruption of your educational benefits. The [new student checklist](#) and [continuing student checklist](#) are available on our Veterans Affairs Center website.

Pre-registration opens April 5th

Recipients of the GI Bill, Hazlewood Act, and Hazlewood Legacy benefits will be able to pre-register for the 2010/Summer terms before the official published dates. Pre-registration for these students will be available at 8 a.m. on April 5, 2010.

Check your [Pioneer Portal](#) today and make sure you don't have a hold preventing early registration.

2010/Summer [course catalog](#)

2010/Summer [academic calendar](#)



TWU [Veterans News Blog](#)

TWU and Social Networking

The TWU Veterans Office is using the following social networks to assist veteran students with their veteran and education benefits.

[TWU VA News Blog](#)- used to provide additional information about using GI Bill benefits at TWU.

[TWU VA Twitter](#)- is used to post useful links related to veterans, but not necessarily related to the GI Bill.

[TWU VA Facebook](#)- is used to encourage online interaction and social networking amongst our veteran students. Posts by TWU VAP are related to veteran benefits or a user's post/comment.

[TWU VA Buzz](#)- a Google web feature used to consolidate social media information into one central location.

Please note that your [TWU email address](#) is the official means of communications and is used to send information directly to you regarding your GI Bill benefits.